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July 20, 2006

MAIL STOP PCT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PCT/JP2005/5781
-filed March 28, 2005

Re: Application of Masahiro MOHRI; Minoru FUJIYOSHI; Fumitaka SATOH;
Tamaki HAMAGUCHI; Tomoyuki MINAMI
FLEXIBLE PIPE
Assignee: HITACHI METALS LTD.
Our Ref: Q96052

Dear Sir:

The following documents are submitted herewith in connection with the above application for the purpose of entering the National stage under 35 U.S.C. §371 and in accordance with the Patent Cooperation Treaty:

- ☒ a copy of the executed Declaration and Power of Attorney.
- ☒ an English translation of the International Application.
- ☒ six (6) sheet(s) of drawings (Figs. 1(a)-1(b), 2(a)-2(b), 3(a)-3(b), 4(a)-4(b), 5-7.
- ☐ an English translation of Article 19 claim amendments.
- ☐ an English translation of Article 34 amendments (annexes to the IPER).
- ☐ a copy of the executed Assignment and PTO 1595 form.
- ☒ a copy of the ISR.
- ☐ a copy of the IPER.
- ☒ a PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) listing the ISR/IPER references.
- ☒ a copy of each reference cited in the ISR/IPER.
- ☒ a Preliminary Amendment.

A copy of the Assignment will be submitted at a later date.

In addition to the documents submitted herewith, it is assumed that copies of the International Application, the International Search Report and cited references, the International Preliminary Examination Report, and any Articles 19 and 34 amendments as required by §371(c) will be supplied directly by the International Bureau, but if further copies are needed, the undersigned will undertake to provide them upon request.



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It is expressly requested that the national stage of processing be commenced immediately in accordance with 35 U.S.C. § 371(f).

Please see the attached PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT before calculating the filing fee.

The Government filing fee is calculated as follows:

Total claims	<u>13</u>	-	<u>20</u>	=		x	\$50.00	=	<u>\$0.00</u>
Independent claims	<u>3</u>	-	<u>3</u>	=		x	\$200.00	=	<u>\$0.00</u>
Base Fee									<u>\$300.00</u>
Search Fee*									<u>\$400.00</u>
Examination Fee*									<u>\$200.00</u>
<u>TOTAL FEE</u>									<u>\$900.00</u>

*The international search fee for all claims was not paid to the USPTO, as the ISA, but the ISR is being submitted herewith.

The statutory fee in the amount of \$900.00 is being charged to Deposit Account No. 19-4880 via EFS Payment Screen. The USPTO is also directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Priority is claimed from:

<u>Country</u>	<u>Application No</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>
Japan	2004-093505	March 26, 2004
Japan	2005-068002	March 10, 2005

The entire disclosures of Japanese Application Nos. 2004-093505 2005-068002 are hereby incorporated by reference.

Respectfully submitted,

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/Peter D. Olexy/

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

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Date: July 20, 2006